     
UNIT: Ceramic - Sculpture   
Lesson: ceramic tiles  
Grade Level: middle school

**Summary:** Students use clay to create a garden tile. The tile will have some hand building techniques added and the students will also write a poem and carve it into the surface of the tile.

Objectives: Students will

* Gain appreciation for the artist David from the book “David the Poter”.
* Design a ceramic tile to put in a garden
* Create a clay tile that incorporates hand building skills
* Demonstrate craftsmanship in construction and glazing

**Materials:**

[Newsprint](http://www.jdoqocy.com/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Fcanson-biggie-recycled-newsprint%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D10309-1013-812&cjsku=10309-1013).for sketches - pencils  
[White Sculpture Clay](http://www.jdoqocy.com/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Famaco-no-27-white-sculpture-raku-clay%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D30509-1027-2066&cjsku=30509-1027)http://www.lduhtrp.net/image-2108462-10495307  
[Canvas cloth](http://www.anrdoezrs.net/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Fthe-art-store-canvas-blankets%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D07333-1001-7989&cjsku=07333-1001)http://www.tqlkg.com/image-2108462-10495307 (For kneading the clay on. This will slowly dry the clay)  
[Clay Modeling Tool Set](http://www.tkqlhce.com/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Fstudent-clay-modeling-tool-set%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D30361-1009-7632&cjsku=30361-1009)http://www.awltovhc.com/image-2108462-10495307  
[Rolling Pins](http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000IZ33Q0?ie=UTF8&tag=incredibleart-20&linkCode=as2&camp=1789&creative=9325&creativeASIN=B000IZ33Q0)http://www.assoc-amazon.com/e/ir?t=incredibleart-20&l=as2&o=1&a=B000IZ33Q0 and guide sticks  
[Low-Fire Gloss Glazes](http://www.jdoqocy.com/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Fblick-low-fire-gloss-glazes%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D30434-6006-4410&cjsku=30434-6006),http://www.awltovhc.com/image-2108462-10495307 [Underglazes](http://www.jdoqocy.com/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Famaco-lead-free-designer-velvet-underglazes%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D30464-3773-10600&cjsku=30464-3773),http://www.lduhtrp.net/image-2108462-10495307 [Assorted brushes](http://www.anrdoezrs.net/click-2108462-10495307?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.dickblick.com%2Fproducts%2Fdynasty-economy-camel-hair-brushes-canister-set-b-100%2F%3Fwmcp%3Dcj%26wmcid%3Dfeeds%26wmckw%3D05118-9144-337&cjsku=05118-9144)http://www.ftjcfx.com/image-2108462-10495307

**Resources:**

**Book:** David the Potter  
  
"Dave was an extraordinary artist, poet, and potter who lived in South Carolina in the 1800's. He combined his superb [artistry](http://literacythroughlit.wikispaces.com/March+2012+Book+Selection) with deeply observant poetry, carved onto his pots, transcending the limitations he faces as a slave."

Instruction/Motivation

1. Show examples of clay tiles the other students have created
2. Review hand building techniques -demonstrate scoring - correct way of attaching pieces -- NOT to trap air.
3. Review glazing

**Procedures:**

Day 1. Have the students build the tiles. Make them 6in by 6in.

Day 2-4. Demo. The correct way to hand build with clay. Make sure that all parts are scored and slipped properly. Students may add things like flowers and animals.

Day 5. Have the students write a short poem on paper to add the tile. When the teacher has approved the writing have the student etch the words onto the clay

Day 6-10. Let the work dry and then fire in the kiln. Then demo. glazing and fire again to finish.

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| Assessment Rubric | | | | | | | |
| Student Name: | | | | | | Class Period: | |
| Assignment: Ceramic Monster | | | | | | Date Completed: | |
| Circle the number in pencil that best shows how well you feel that you completed that criterion for the assignment. | | Excellent | Good | Average | Needs Improvement | Rate Yourself | Teacher’s Rating |
| Criteria 1 – planning sketches and plan for construction. Written reflection | | 10 | 9 – 8 | 7 | 6 or less |  |  |
| Criteria 2 – Design and construction of tile | | 10 | 9 – 8 | 7 | 6 or less |  |  |
| Criteria 3 – Glazing - aesthetics | | 10 | 9 – 8 | 7 | 6 or less |  |  |
| Criteria 4 – Effort: took time to develop idea & complete project? (Didn’t rush.) Good use of class time? | | 10 | 9 – 8 | 7 | 6 or less |  |  |
| Criteria 5 – Craftsmanship – Neat, clean & complete? Skillful use of the art tools & media? | | 10 | 9 – 8 | 7 | 6 or less |  |  |
| Total: 50  (possible points) | Grade: |  |  |  |  | Your Total | Teacher Total |

Student Comments:  
  
Teacher Comments: